



City of La Porte

Established 1892

Police Department

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the Texas Police Chiefs Association



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La Porte Police Department celebrates employee service as well as current accomplishments



**Newly promoted Sergeant Lia Ferrell
accompanied by LPPD Chief Ken Adcox (left) and her husband Jack Ferrell (right)**



**(L to R) Lt. Tammy McBeath & Det. Danny Jones recognized for Cold Case collar,
while Officer's Dalton and O'Sullivan commended for life saving efforts.**

The summer of 2014 has proven to be an exciting and productive time for the men and women of the La Porte Police Department. Such was evident during the Department's recent semi-annual Employee Recognition Ceremony held on Friday, August 1. During the ceremony, Police Chief Ken Adcox welcomed several new members to LPPD's ranks, recognized numerous dedicated officers for their superior investigative skills, and promoted the department's first supervisor in almost four years.

Officer Lia Ferrell became La Porte Police Department's second female commissioned supervisor as she was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Ferrell replaced long-time La Porte Police Sergeant Rod Davis, whose retirement became effective on July 29th, 2014. She has over seven years of patrol experience with the La Porte Police Department and has served on all three of the designated shifts during her tenure. In addition to her extended field experience, Ferrell holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Sam Houston State University. She takes over as the Day-Shift Patrol Sergeant and has expressed excitement in assuming her new role.

Accompanying Ferrell's promotion on August 1st was the swearing in of two new LPPD officers, Larry Hawkins and Jeff Plemons. Additional new members recognized included Austin Alberson, Marshall Dobson and Omar Rene Alonzo as Jailers; Stacey Lippold and Steven Britt as Dispatchers; and Lauren Hartis as Animal Control Officer.

During the ceremony, a series of Chiefs Commendations were also awarded. Among the honored were Lt. Tammy McBeath and Det. Danny Jones, who were recognized for their outstanding investigative work, leading to the successful clearance of a cold case double homicide that had occurred nearly 17 years ago on La Porte's eastside. La Porte's Sgt. Marcus Upchurch was recognized for outstanding communication and intervention skills, as he prevented a would-be suicide victim from inflicting self-harm until trained negotiators could arrive. Officer Michael Harness was commended for ongoing K-9 narcotic arrests, and Officer Chad Burnett was credited with superior observation skills, which led in to the arrest of an area burglar. Five Detectives assigned to the Street Crimes Division were also praised for their efforts in an investigation which halted acts of prostitution at a local spa. Each of the listed employees was shown to go above and beyond the call of duty in their particular assignments.

Adding to the Chief's acclamations, Officer Sam Bianchino and Officer Jeff Dalton were recognized as Employee of the First and Second Quarter, respectively. Bianchino was involved in the capture of a burglar as he fled the scene of a crime, while Dalton used his observation and initiative skills in locating, and later saving, a man who was in the process of attempting suicide.

Finally, Officer Shane O'Sullivan and Officer Jeff Dalton were presented with distinguished medals, representing the agency's Life Saving Award. Both events occurred on separate dates along the Fred Hartman Bridge. Dalton resuscitated a man attempting suicide, via excessive exhaust inhalation inside a van which the officer had discovered parked under the bridge in the middle of the night, while O'Sullivan grabbed the arm of a female intending to jump from the bridge during the instant she leapt off the bridge's ledge.

La Porte Police Department's commitment to its members as well as its ongoing dedication to providing a high level of service to the La Porte community remains evident. The department believes that service manifests itself through the hiring of the best people available and then by outfitting those people with proper training, equipment, support, and guidance. The final ingredient is to value and recognize employees for their extraordinary efforts. Area residents are encouraged to join the police department by taking the time to congratulate the listed employees.